

Low budget agricultural journalist visit to Finland, August–September 2017

Preliminary program

Time for the tour

All times are local times, Finland UTC+3 hours (Daylight Saving Time)

30.8.-1.9.2017

Tuesday 29.8.

Our guests arrive to Helsinki International airport on their afternoon flights.

At about 16.30, we'll arrange a shuttle from Helsinki airport to Majatalo Onnela,

Rantatie 34, 04310 Tuusula; <https://www.onnela.com/en/>

Check in at our Hotel

Sauna available,

Participant introductions

Dinner

Wednesday 30.8.

Breakfast at Hotel. Check out.

Departure from Hotel, if you arrive on Wednesday morning before 8,30, we can pick you up from the airport, on the way to our first visit.

Introduction on Finnish agriculture and animal welfare. Knehtilä organic farm. <http://knehtilantila.fi/in-english/>

- Finnish couple Markus Eerola and Minna Sakki–Eerola received the WWF Baltic Sea Farmer of the Year Award in 2015. They are awarded for their precise and innovative techniques that have created optimal soil structure and successful retention of nutrients at their organic crop farm Knehtilä. The Award was created by WWF to recognize the importance of farmers who are taking active steps to reduce nutrient runoff to the Baltic Sea.
- Chief of agriculture department of the Finnish Farmers Association MTK Johan Åberg will tell us about Finnish agriculture and its politics.
- Lunch
- Presentation on Hankkija, predominant Finnish agribusiness by executive board member Ensio Hytönen.
http://www.hankkija.fi/Hankkija/Briefly_in_English/
- Progres® feed additive by Suomen Rehu. Progres is a new

patented feed innovation aimed at supporting the productivity and health of animals, thus improving the sustainability of animal production worldwide.

- Animal welfare in Finnish ag production. Veterinarian Kristiina Sarjokari, Valio. Valio is the market leader in all key dairy product groups in Finland and a world class pioneer in the development of innovative products.

Depart from Knehtilä

- Visit to a modern dairy farm with 3 milking robots. Owner and manager Kati Saarinen, Jokirannantie 10, Hyvinkää. We will provide protective clothing.
- Visit to Valio snack factory, Meijerintie 6, 11100 Riihimäki. This new state-of-the-art dairy plant, opened in 2017, can produce a wide range and large quantity of environmentally friendly and delicious snacks. We will provide protective clothing.

18.00 Arrival to Mäkelä Farm and farm holidays, Mäkelänjärventie 372, 35500 Korkeakoski, owner-operators Teija and Mikko Lindell.
<http://makelanlomatuivat.fi/>

19.00 Evening program with sauna and dinner

Thursday 31.8.

From 7.00 Breakfast

8.30 Departure

- Visit with Avant Tecno, Ylötie 1, Ylöjärvi. Presentation of the company and their product line.
<http://www.avanttecno.com/www/>

Departure from Avant

Visit with a local cheese plant, Juustoportti, Meijeritie 3, Jalasjärvi

- Lunch with Juustoportti
- Juustoportti and their product line presentation
- http://www.juustoportti.fi/juustoportti_EN

15.00 Departure from Juustoportti

Visit a modern wean-to-finish pork farm with 1700 fattening places. Annual production capacity of 6500 slaughter pigs. Owner

and manager Mika Vuorinen, Peuramäentie 34, Jalasjärvi. This visit will be in cooperation with the cooperative slaughter house and meat processing company Atria.

ca. 18.30 Company (to be named later) presentation at Näsinneula, Planetarium

Dinner; Finnish delicacy with extraordinary view at Restaurant Näsinneula, Tampere <http://www.sarkanniemi.fi/nasinneula/en>

Overnight at Hyytiälä, University of Helsinki Forestry Field Station Hyytiäläntie 124, FIN-35500 Korkeakoski

Friday 1.9.

From 7.00 Breakfast

8.00 Introduction to Hyytiälä Forestry Field Station. Optional. time permitting. <http://www.helsinki.fi/hyytiala/english/index.htm>
Introduction to SMEAR II research station. Smear research stations are to measure the relationship of atmosphere and forest in boreal climate zone.
<https://www.atm.helsinki.fi/SMEAR/index.php/smear-ii>

10.00 Departure

On the road from Tampere to Järvenpää, we will visit a forest harvesting site operated by Logset. The site has a harvester and forwarder in action.

The Logset machine range contains of six forwarders, eight harvesters and seven different harvester heads. Logset's distribution network covers 20 countries, and Logset machines are working in more than 25 countries.

http://www.logset.com/About_Logset

13.00 Oat, the success story of the Finnish grain fields

- Lunch at the Herkkupaja and Gold & Green (pulled oat), Emalikatu 9, Järvenpää
- Gold & Green company and product line presentation; <http://www.goldandgreenfoods.com/>
- Visit with Helsinki Mills, Puurtajankatu, Järvenpää; premier organic oat miller in Finland; <http://www.helsinkimills.fi/>

16.00 Departure from Järvenpää

Evening program and farewell dinner. This will be a surprise, which will be announced to participants only. MTK and Viestilehdet.

Overnight stay in Helsinki area.
HOTEL ANNA, Annankatu 1, 00120 Helsinki
www.hotelanna.fi
<http://www.rantapuisto.fi/>

Saturday 2.9.

From 6.00 Breakfast
ca. 8.00 Shuttle to the Helsinki International airport

The language of the visit is English. We will provide interpreting as it is needed.

Sponsors and companions:

Valio (Premier dairy company owned by dairy farmers)
Pellon Group (machinery and installations for dairy farms)
Hankkija (Hankkija is a nationwide store and service chain for agriculture-related products, machinery, hardware and gardening.)
Atria (vertically integrated International meat and food processing company)
Avant Tecno (farm machinery producer)
Juustoportti (regional dairy and cheese plant)
Helsingin mylly (family owned flour milling company, known for organic oat)
Gold and Green (pulled oat and vegetarian food producer)
Maataloustoimittajat (Finnish Association of Agricultural Journalists – member of ENAJ and IFAJ)
MTK (The Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners (MTK))
SLC (the Swedish speaking Farmers' association in Finland)
ETL (Finnish Food and Drink Industries' Federation)
MMM (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland)